The Government have undertaken the execution of a scheme for improvement of livestock in the State on a systematic basis. A five-year scheme under which a large number of bulls of *Dhani* and *Sindhi* breeds are purchased and distributed among well-to-do *zamindars* in selected centres every year has also been sanctioned. Horse and mule breeding activities also have been started on a small scale, but a more comprehensive scheme is under consideration. Special interest has been taken in sheep-breeding, which is so important for the development of the wool industry in the State. Livestock shows are held at different places in the State every year, with a view to encouraging livestock improvement. More veterinary dispensaries are being opened every year. A laboratory has been established recently at Srinagar, where Goat Tissue vaccine is prepared for the treatment of animals.

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The Agriculture Department is doing useful work to improve agricultural conditions in the State. The activities of the Department which were at first confined to Kashmir Province only have been gradually extended to Jammu Province also. Agricultural and Horticultural experimental work and the demonstration of improved methods of cultivation of crops and fruit plants are important features of the Department's work. It also distributes improved seeds, grafted fruit plants, implements and manures, gives technical advice to orchardists and agriculturists and fights the San Jose Scale and other pests. Agricultural training is imparted to sons of *zamindars* at Government Farms. The Department has introduced high yielding varieties of wheat and corns including sugarcorns from the U. S. A., Canada and Russia, and several foreign vegetables and fruits.

The soils of Kashmir Valley are very fertile and irrigation is easy in areas removed from water. The improved seeds distributed by the Agriculture Department have found favour with the *zamindars*. Hand labour in Kashmir Province has been found to compete favourably with agricultural machinery. In Jammu Province, the use of new iron ploughs has been demonstrated and the *zamindars* have purchased such implements for their farms.

ment for supply of drinking water to the *kandi illaqa* of Jammu Province, and a special allotment is made in the budget for the purpose every year. Tube wells have been constructed at several places, and water supply schemes for a number of localities are under consideration.

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Reference has already been made to one of the chief industries in the State, *viz.*, the Sericulture industry, which is a Government concern. The silk filature in Srinagar is the largest of its kind in the world. A special quality of raw silk has been produced in Kashmir, which can favourably compete with silk produced anywhere else. It is interesting to note that the rearing of cocoons for silk provides employment for thousands of homes in the villages, exclusive of the labour that finds employment in the factories themselves. Owing to the rise in the price of silk, sericulture has already made a good contribution to the revenue of the State. A scheme for a large expansion of the industry has been taken in hand. A five-year plan for the expansion of the factory at Jammu has already been sanctioned, and it is expected that at the end of five years, the labour employed in the sericulture operations in the factory premises and in cocoon rearing in the province as a whole will show an increase of 150 per cent. High class carpets are manufactured in Kashmir and exported to Europe and America. Owing to the war, however, this industry has suffered a set-back recently. The industry, as stated before, continues to receive a subsidy from the Government.

A Department of Industries was established in 1923 to develop and foster industries in the State. The chief among the older industries which have become established are a Match Factory, a Santonine Factory, a Tannery, a Pottery Factory and the Shri Karan Singh Woollen Mills. A Government Silk Weaving Factory has been established to produce high class silk fabrics of different kinds. It has recently been developed and expanded to four times its original size to give a further fillip to the silk weaving industry in the State. A Research and Commercial Sheep Breeding Farm with a research and commercial section has been established to develop the sheep breeding

232 and wool growing industry in the State. For purposes
654 of research work, the Government have granted subsidy to the Farm.

655 Forests which cover about one-eighth of the total area
313 of the State, and Forest industries provide a large field of employment for skilled and unskilled workers, besides yielding a large revenue to the Government. In recent years, the Forest Department has shown particularly good results. The net revenue of the Department for 1942-43 was Rs. 63.46 lakhs, which gives it precedence over other parts of India. The demand for timber grown in the State has increased considerably and owing to war conditions it has brought good prices. Cultivation of pyrethrum has made good progress. The Rosin and Turpentine Factory at Miransahib has done particularly well. The factory has led to the establishment of a number of minor private-owned industries and contributed to the development of Miransahib into what promises to be a new industrial town. The Half-wrought Factory at Baramulla received orders exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for 1942-43.
284 The feasibility of establishing a newsprint paper industry in the State was investigated by Tata Sons Ltd. with whom the Government have entered into an agreement for a comprehensive investigation of industrial possibilities in the State. But owing to the impracticability of importing heavy machinery in the
742 present conditions, the proposition has to wait. A Drug Research Laboratory has been established under the expert guidance of Sir Ram Nath Chopra, its Director, and it is expected that within a few months it will be in a position to meet a part of the requirements of medical
322 institutions in the State. Another noteworthy industry is Kashmir Willows, which besides manufacturing cricket bats has taken in hand the production of other wooden articles of great utility.

471 The establishment of a sugar mill at Miransahib near Jammu, is in hand and the manufacturing operations are expected to start early. The Shri Karan Singh Woollen Mills and the Indianite Factory which are not State-owned, but in which the Government have a substantial interest, have been kept busy executing orders received from outside the State. Well established cottage industries producing woollen fabrics, like *patloos*, tweeds, blankets, shawls, *namdas*, *gabbas*, papier-mache and

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on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Besides imparting education by "shows" Departmental bulletins were also published and circulated. The bulletins dealt with the sowing of Maize, Groundnuts, Soybeams and Beams and the removal of certain crop diseases. 543

Manure.—The Agriculture Department has tried several manures on the farm to test their utility on different crops. 242 654

27. **Horticulture.**—The department maintains fruit plant nurseries including ornamental plants. Fruit canning is receiving attention though the industry is still in its incipient stage. A firm known as Kashmir Fruit Preserve Works has been authorized to manufacture fruit beverages, apple-brandy, grape wine and ciders etc. A new nursery has been opened at Achhabal and experiments regarding stock and scion compatibility have been started in all the nurseries and scion wood from Australia has been introduced. The department has been distributing about a lac of young plants annually to the zamindars without any charge.

The only disquieting feature of the decade has been the appearance of San Jose Scale disease which has inflicted a very heavy damage on the fruit industry of Kashmir. Remedial and control measures have been adopted to get rid of this pest. [134]

28. **Veterinary.**—For maintenance of agricultural prosperity the maintenance of live-stock in health is essential. Previous to 1923 the system of inoculation did not exist and consequently the mortality among cattle was heavy. There are now 18 Veterinary Hospitals in the State and the outbreaks of rinderpest, Hæmorrhagic Septicaemia and other epidemic diseases were successfully dealt with on modern scientific lines and many animal lives saved. Facilities have been provided by the department for brining to its notice the outbreak of epidemics and even individual patients. For improvement of cattle several schemes have been under contemplation and awaiting to be put into effect as funds permit. The scrub bull pest is being removed by castration of the scrub bulls. The enclosed table shows the variation in live-stock during the last decade. 232